Amendments to the Claims:

1-25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) ~~A pharmaceutical~~ The composition of claim 44, comprising porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume ~~and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin~~.

27. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein:

the crystallized dextran microparticles comprise dextran molecules held together by hydrogen bonds, Van Der Waals forces or ionic bonds and having substantially no covalent bonds between dextran molecules.

28. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein the composition comprises an aqueous suspension of crystallized dextran microparticles and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin.

29. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein the composition is located in a vessel in an amount dosed for a single oral administration to a human.

30. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein the composition is located in a vessel with instruction printed on the vessel or enclosed with the vessel for oral dosage administration to a human.

31. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]] 44, wherein the composition comprises a tablet comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium, the crystallized dextran microparticles and the therapeutically effective amount of insulin.

32. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein the composition comprises a capsule comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable shell, the crystallized dextran microparticles and the therapeutically effective amount of insulin.

33. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein:

the composition comprises a two phase composition comprising a dextran phase and a PEG phase;

the insulin is selectively partitioned in the PEG phase and the microparticles are selectively partitioned in the dextran phase; and

the composition is adapted to form a structured suspension comprising a dispersed PEG phase and a continuous dextran phase.

34. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition kit, comprising:

~~an aqueous suspension of porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin~~ the composition according to claim 28 located in a vessel; and

instructions for oral administration of the composition to a human in need thereof.

35. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical kit, comprising:

a first means for orally administering a suspension of ~~porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin~~ a composition according to claim 44 to a mammal to lower blood glucose of the mammal by at least 30 percent 60 minutes after administering the suspension to the mammal; and

a storage vessel containing the first means.

36. (Currently amended) A tablet comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier medium and a composition according to claim 44 ~~, porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin~~.

37. (Currently amended) A capsule comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable shell and a composition according to claim 44 ~~, porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin~~.

38-40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently amended) The composition of claim [[26]]44, wherein the porous crystallized dextran microparticles have an average diameter of about 0.5 to about 5 microns.

42. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 26, wherein the insulin is located in contact with a surface of the porous crystallized dextran microparticles or in pores of the microparticles.

43. (Currently amended) [[The]] A pharmaceutical composition ~~of claim 26,~~ comprising porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin, wherein the insulin is not encapsulated by the porous crystallized dextran microparticles.

44. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising crystallized dextran microparticles and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin, wherein the insulin is not encapsulated by the microparticles.

45. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising porous crystallized dextran microparticles having a porosity of at least 10% by volume and a therapeutically effective amount of insulin, wherein the insulin is not encapsulated by said microparticles, and wherein the insulin is located in contact with a surface of the porous crystallized dextran microparticles or in pores of the microparticles.